

Message Text

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ACTION IO-03

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 NEA-06 EUR-08 SSO-00 NSCE-00

NSC-05 SP-02 INR-05 L-01 SAB-01 INRE-00 SAM-01 /047 W

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FM AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 8919

INFO AMEMBASSY PARIS IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L TEHRAN 9393

LIMDIS

UNESCO

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PORG, OCON, UNESCO

SUBJECT: UNESCO 18TH GC: RESOLUTION ON JERUSALEM

REF: STATE 242239; STATE 9301

1. DCM TOOK UP SUBJECT OF UNESCO RESOLUTION ON JERUSALEM WITH FOREIGN MINISTRY UNDERSECRETARY NADIM EMPHASIZING HARSHER TERMS PRESENT RESOLUTION CONTAINS IN CONTRAST TO EARLIER RESOLUTIONS ON SAME SUBJECT. ALSO EXPRESSED OUR DEEP CONCERN THAT IF RESOLUTION PASSED, IT COULD HAVE SERIOUS EFFECT ON US CONGRESSIONAL AND PUBLIC ATTITUDES TOWARD CONTINUING SUPPORT FOR UNESCO AND OTHER UN AGENCIES.

2. NADIM AGREED THAT IT WOULD BE INDEED UNFORTUNATE IF PASSAGE OF RESOLUTION, AS IT NOW STANDS, WOULD RESULT IN LESSENED SUPPORT FOR UNESCO AND SAID THAT IRAN HAD BEEN HOPEFUL THAT LATIN AMERICAN EFFORT TO MODIFY TERMS OF PRESENT RESOLUTION WOULD SUCCEED. APPARENTLY, HOWEVER, THEY HAVE NOT. HE WENT ON TO SAY THAT IRAN CANNOT ASSOCIATE ITSELF WITH EFFORTS TO MODIFY THE PRESENT RESOLUTION
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BECAUSE OF STRONG RELIGIOUS SENTIMENT IN IRAN OVER

ANY UNILATERAL ALTERATION OF JERUSALEM (WHICH THE ISRAELIS ARE ABOUT) AND ALSO BECAUSE OF KING FAISAL'S TOTALLY OBSESSIVE CONCERN ABOUT THE STATE OF JERUSALEM. WHILE IRAN DOES NOT FEEL COMPELLED TO CATER TO KING FAISAL'S EVERY DESIRE, IT ALSO DOES NOT BELIEVE THAT IT SHOULD OFFEND HIM IN THIS CASE BY ANY OVERT STEP WHICH MIGHT BE CONSTRUED AS IRAN BEING SOFT ON THE QUESTION OF JERUSALEM.

3. IN OUR JUDGMENT, IT IS EXTREMELY DOUBTFUL THAT FURTHER HIGHER LEVEL REPRESENTATION WOULD ALTER IRAN'S POSITION ON THIS MATTER.
HELMS

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NNN

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